



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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South Carolina's Employment Situation August 2011

Unemployment rate ticks up

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose from 10.9 percent in July to 11.1 percent in August. The state's labor force increased for the fourth consecutive month with the total labor force level estimated at 2,163,803. There were 1,924,633 employed persons in August, down slightly from the previous month. Over the past several months, employment levels have continued to decrease while unemployment levels have increased, thus driving the unemployment rate higher.

South Carolina's nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 1,700; however, manufacturing continued to show positive job growth with a seventh consecutive monthly gain in employment since January 2011. Manufacturing employment went up 800 from a month ago and up 11,000 from a year ago. South Carolina has led the southeastern region in manufacturing job growth, by nearly doubling the increase posted by Kentucky--the state with the next highest growth rate. Within the manufacturing sector, durable goods saw a positive employment increase. Contributing to the durable goods' gain was: Primary Metal and Fabricated Metal Products Manufacturing (+200) and Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (+200).

There were encouraging gains in several other major industry sectors as well: Professional and Business Services (+1,200), Education and Health Services (+500), and Government (+1,400). Job growth in these industry sectors helped minimize this month's decline in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities and Leisure and Hospitality. Over the year, the total jobs count is 16,500 higher than for August 2010, with the private employers adding 32,200 jobs. The 12-month growth was fueled by Manufacturing, Leisure and Hospitality, and Professional and Business Services sectors.

The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online Index reflected that nationally, there was a decline in the number of ads posted by employers in August. The number of online ads in South Carolina fell by 1,900 to 45,200 ads from July to August, with neighboring states experiencing similar trends: Florida's on-line ads were down 14,700, Georgia lost 8,100 and Alabama dropped 2,900.

"Although the state's unemployment rate rose in August, South Carolinians should not be discouraged as we have seen the initial claims for unemployment and the duration of benefits paid decrease," said SC Department of Employment and Workforce Executive Director Abraham Turner. "We are aware through jobs announcements that businesses are coming to the state; therefore, I have made job training my top priority to ensure South Carolina has a skilled and well-trained workforce to offer those businesses."

"As we partner with other agencies including the two- and four-year colleges, I am confident we can forge ahead to put South Carolinians back to work," said Turner.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide
August 2011

Jobs by Industry	August 2011	July 2011	August 2010	July 2011 to August 2011		August 2010 to August 2011	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	1,828,900	1,830,600	1,812,400	-1,700	-0.09%	16,500	0.91%
Natural Resources and Mining	4,200	4,200	4,000	0	0.00%	200	5.00%
Construction	77,600	77,800	78,900	-200	-0.26%	-1,300	-1.65%
Manufacturing	218,700	217,900	207,700	800	0.37%	11,000	5.30%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	351,800	353,300	346,200	-1,500	-0.42%	5,600	1.62%
Information	25,500	25,800	25,400	-300	-1.16%	100	0.39%
Financial Activities	97,100	97,600	98,300	-500	-0.51%	-1,200	-1.22%
Professional and Business Services	224,600	223,400	218,400	1,200	0.54%	6,200	2.84%
Education and Health Services	216,400	215,900	212,100	500	0.23%	4,300	2.03%
Leisure and Hospitality	224,400	227,800	216,900	-3,400	-1.49%	7,500	3.46%
Government	320,300	318,900	336,000	1,400	0.44%	-15,700	-4.67%

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Area (Not Seasonally Adjusted)
August 2011

INDUSTRY TITLE	August 2011	July 2011	August 2010	July 2011 to August 2011		August 2010 to August 2011	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	1,828,900	1,830,600	1,812,400	-1,700	-0.09%	16,500	0.91%
Anderson MSA	61,100	60,500	58,500	600	0.99%	2,600	4.44%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	288,500	290,000	284,700	-1,500	-0.52%	3,800	1.33%
Columbia MSA	342,700	342,700	340,800	0	0.00%	1,900	0.56%
Florence MSA	83,000	83,100	81,300	-100	-0.12%	1,700	2.09%
Greenville MSA	299,000	296,600	295,000	2,400	0.81%	4,000	1.36%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	128,800	129,900	122,200	-1,100	-0.85%	6,600	5.40%
Spartanburg MSA	116,300	113,900	116,600	2,400	2.11%	-300	-0.26%
Sumter MSA	38,000	37,100	36,900	900	2.43%	1,100	2.98%

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA	August 2011				July 2011				August 2010			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	
			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)			LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marion County	12,652	10,128	2,524	19.9	12,807	10,254	2,553	19.9	12,740	10,157	2,583	20.3
Allendale County	3,362	2,709	653	19.4	3,420	2,745	675	19.7	3,408	2,766	642	18.8
Marlboro County	11,499	9,410	2,089	18.2	11,613	9,500	2,113	18.2	11,974	9,580	2,394	20.0
Union County	11,248	9,270	1,978	17.6	11,284	9,317	1,967	17.4	11,482	9,383	2,099	18.3
Chester County	14,574	12,113	2,461	16.9	14,613	12,118	2,495	17.1	14,922	12,212	2,710	18.2
Bamberg County	6,454	5,372	1,082	16.8	6,594	5,443	1,151	17.5	6,515	5,461	1,054	16.2
Barnwell County	8,662	7,218	1,444	16.7	8,802	7,307	1,495	17.0	8,920	7,346	1,574	17.6
Orangeburg County	40,977	34,256	6,721	16.4	42,182	34,712	7,470	17.7	41,253	34,697	6,556	15.9
Clarendon County	13,096	11,038	2,058	15.7	13,173	11,095	2,078	15.8	13,052	11,108	1,944	14.9
Dillon County	13,723	11,566	2,157	15.7	13,853	11,693	2,160	15.6	13,932	11,709	2,223	16.0
McCormick County	3,301	2,796	505	15.3	3,352	2,830	522	15.6	3,370	2,844	526	15.6
Lancaster County	30,252	25,661	4,591	15.2	30,397	25,758	4,639	15.3	30,994	25,894	5,100	16.5
Hampton County	7,998	6,831	1,167	14.6	8,133	6,933	1,200	14.8	8,084	6,956	1,128	14.0
Lee County	8,401	7,191	1,210	14.4	8,450	7,203	1,247	14.8	8,408	7,212	1,196	14.2
Cherokee County	24,472	20,971	3,501	14.3	24,594	21,147	3,447	14.0	24,876	21,211	3,665	14.7
Williamsburg County	16,187	13,885	2,302	14.2	16,389	14,064	2,325	14.2	16,299	14,000	2,299	14.1
Chesterfield County	18,568	15,959	2,609	14.1	18,705	16,084	2,621	14.0	19,130	16,143	2,987	15.6
Calhoun County	6,865	5,903	962	14.0	7,049	5,937	1,112	15.8	6,693	5,895	798	11.9
Colleton County	17,692	15,235	2,457	13.9	17,990	15,461	2,529	14.1	17,724	15,437	2,287	12.9
York County	113,333	98,102	15,231	13.4	110,647	96,208	14,439	13.0	116,693	97,764	18,929	16.2
Darlington County	31,636	27,417	4,219	13.3	31,772	27,517	4,255	13.4	31,095	26,961	4,134	13.3
Abbeville County	10,896	9,508	1,388	12.7	11,015	9,613	1,402	12.7	11,006	9,547	1,459	13.3
Greenwood County	30,420	26,623	3,797	12.5	30,782	27,052	3,730	12.1	30,764	26,980	3,784	12.3
Fairfield County	10,718	9,393	1,325	12.4	10,836	9,447	1,389	12.8	10,858	9,381	1,477	13.6
Sumter County	46,753	41,213	5,540	11.8	46,142	40,517	5,625	12.2	45,812	40,280	5,532	12.1
Spartanburg County	134,411	119,174	15,237	11.3	133,087	117,608	15,479	11.6	135,594	119,698	15,896	11.7
Florence County	64,619	57,353	7,266	11.2	64,994	57,562	7,432	11.4	63,566	56,398	7,168	11.3
Laurens County	32,499	28,907	3,592	11.1	32,716	28,806	3,910	12.0	32,450	28,632	3,818	11.8
Newberry County	18,192	16,168	2,024	11.1	18,426	16,347	2,079	11.3	18,509	16,429	2,080	11.2
Georgetown County	30,696	27,320	3,376	11.0	31,136	27,747	3,389	10.9	30,990	27,428	3,562	11.5
Oconee County	30,884	27,511	3,373	10.9	31,392	27,807	3,585	11.4	31,356	27,715	3,641	11.6
Edgefield County	11,238	10,022	1,216	10.8	11,054	10,031	1,023	9.3	11,324	10,208	1,116	9.9
Anderson County	86,814	77,823	8,991	10.4	86,532	77,501	9,031	10.4	84,891	75,380	9,511	11.2
Kershaw County	29,785	26,716	3,069	10.3	29,985	26,869	3,116	10.4	29,924	26,681	3,243	10.8
Richland County	181,886	163,237	18,649	10.3	183,401	164,177	19,224	10.5	181,762	163,026	18,736	10.3
Berkeley County	82,745	74,352	8,393	10.1	83,658	75,127	8,531	10.2	82,243	73,625	8,618	10.5
Jasper County	10,343	9,294	1,049	10.1	10,588	9,457	1,131	10.7	10,491	9,438	1,053	10.0
Horry County	143,634	129,296	14,338	10.0	145,240	130,832	14,408	9.9	137,840	123,443	14,397	10.4
Pickens County	57,824	52,116	5,708	9.9	57,729	51,934	5,795	10.0	57,713	51,620	6,093	10.6
Saluda County	8,991	8,113	878	9.8	8,989	8,160	829	9.2	8,934	8,102	832	9.3
Beaufort County	65,122	58,925	6,197	9.5	66,264	59,955	6,309	9.5	65,722	59,840	5,882	8.9
Charleston County	180,049	163,080	16,969	9.4	181,782	164,779	17,003	9.4	178,411	161,485	16,926	9.5
Dorchester County	65,510	59,516	5,994	9.1	66,199	60,136	6,063	9.2	65,168	58,934	6,234	9.6
Aiken County	76,452	69,603	6,849	9.0	76,512	69,664	6,848	9.0	77,617	70,900	6,717	8.7
Greenville County	226,190	205,739	20,451	9.0	225,294	205,019	20,275	9.0	225,076	203,779	21,297	9.5
Lexington County	133,820	122,305	11,515	8.6	134,522	123,009	11,513	8.6	133,343	122,147	11,196	8.4
Charleston MSA	328,304	296,948	31,356	9.6	331,640	300,043	31,597	9.5	325,821	294,044	31,777	9.8
Columbia MSA	372,064	335,666	36,398	9.8	374,782	337,599	37,183	9.9	371,515	335,233	36,282	9.8
Florence MSA	96,255	84,770	11,485	11.9	96,766	85,079	11,687	12.1	94,661	83,359	11,302	11.9
Greenville MSA	316,513	286,762	29,751	9.4	315,740	285,759	29,981	9.5	315,240	284,031	31,209	9.9
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED												
South Carolina	2,163,803	1,924,633	239,170	11.1	2,160,948	1,925,125	235,823	10.9	2,159,414	1,922,778	236,636	11.0

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.